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22 March 1965

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

25 YEAR
RE-REVIEW

CURRENT INTELLIGENCE
RELATING TO NATIONAL SECURITY

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

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*Vietnam: [Information as of 0430 EST] About 20 US aircraft struck the Vinh Son radar site in North Vietnam at about 1600 local Vietnam time (0300 EST) on 22 March. A US pilot was recovered safely after his F-105 crashed into the sea. There have been no damage assessment reports as yet.]

[Initial field reconnaissance reports indicate that the 21 March South Vietnamese strike against the Vu Con barracks in North Vietnam destroyed five buildings in the target area. The target contains some 64 buildings in all. Initial pilot reports on the strike indicated 60 per cent damage to the installations. The target area is a strongpoint one mile north of the Demilitarized Zone, and is suspected of serving as a staging area for infiltration into South Vietnam.]

[Some 24 South Vietnamese Skyraider aircraft were in the strike force; twelve US aircraft flew flak suppression, rescue and reconnaissance support for the strike. Ground fire over the target was light, and all aircraft were safely recovered.]

[no Communist air reaction to the strike was reported.]

[There has been no significant Communist bloc propaganda in the past 24 hours! The 21 March strike was scored by all bloc capitals in familiar language.]

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[The South Vietnamese Armed Forces Council, meeting on 20 March, reaffirmed General Tran Van Minh as armed forces commander-in-chief, and named General Huynh Van Cao, chief of the political warfare directorate, as chief of the Joint General Staff.]

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[REDACTED]

the Viet Cong continue to concentrate on small-scale actions including minings, kidnapings and mortar shelling of government outposts.

Further evidence of Viet Cong determination to continue direct actions against US personnel was revealed over the week end.

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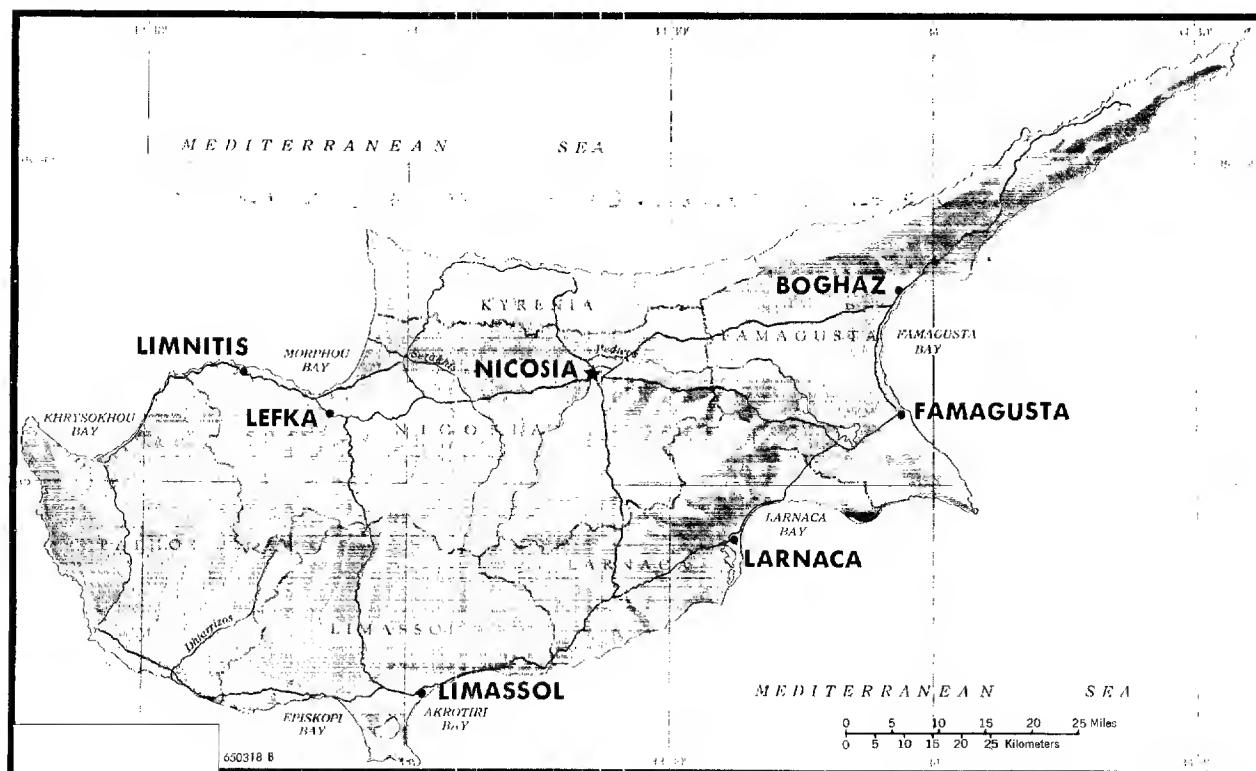
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CYPRUS



22 Mar 65 CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN Map

Cyprus: [The Cyprus situation remains precarious.]

[Athens has publicly parried Turkish Prime Minister Urguplu's informal request for Cyprus talks by asking that Turkey rely on the efforts of the UN mediator.]

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[The failure of Urguplu's bid for a peaceful settlement would probably strengthen interventionist sentiment both in the military and in the Justice Party, which had established a position favoring a forceful Cyprus policy prior to entering the government.]

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[Cyprus has remained relatively quiet for the past few days with no incidents which would trigger Turkish intervention. However, tensions between the Greek and Turkish communities remain high.]

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*USSR: The pilots of Voskhod-2 apparently are well and undergoing examination at Tyuratam before being given a Moscow welcome.

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Belyaev and Leonov probably were not found until 20 March, at least 24 hours after their unscheduled landing in snow, fog and cold near Perm. Tass reported they arrived at the Perm airport on 21 March and that no one asked the traditional question about their health because their "vigorous and healthy appearance was self-evident."

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Later on 21 March, Tass reported that the pilots would be given an appropriate welcome in Moscow, and that they had arrived at the "Cosmodrome" (Tyuratam).

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